been under constant review of the Government and suitable changes in policies, rules and procedures are made from time to time to meet the changing needs of the economy.

Bank facility to pensioners in NDMC

1112. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the New Delhi Municipal Committee has not extended the facility to their pensioners to draw their pension through nationalised banks;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the NDMC proposes to extend such facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The NDMC are agreeable, in principle, to extend the facility for drawing pension through banks. There has, however, been no response from the State Bank of India and New Bank of India so far, Indian Overseas Bank had agreed to extend the facility only through limited number of their branches. Accordingly, options were invited from the Municipal Pensioners but only 25 Pensioners out of about 1000 opted to draw their pension through the branches of this bank. Since the number of Pensioners opting for the scheme was very small, the bank was not inclined to extend facility to such a small number of Pensioners.

Disbursement of loans by the lead banks in West Bengal to the registered unemployed

1113. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that lead banks in West Bengal are not prompt in sanctioning and disbursing loans under the Self Employment Programme to the registered unemployed;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial steps are being taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the "Self Employment Scheme for Registered Unemployds' of the State Government of West Bengal. assistance is provided to unemployeds registered with employment exchanges in the age group of 18 years to 40 years. Minimum educational qualification for beneficiaries has not been laid down. Under the scheme, a composite loan not exceeding Rs. 35,000/- is admissible per beneficiary and subsidy at the rate of 25 per cent of loan is provided by the State Government. The loan is repayable in 5—7 years and attracts interest as per RBI directive on interest rates. As this is a State sponsored scheme, the progress under the scheme is not monitored by Reserve Bank of India.

Arms haul

1114. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 10th July, 1989 to the effect that one of the biggest arms haul has been made which includes four AK 47 rifles and two sten guns on the 9th July, 1989;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this connection; and

(d) whether any inquiry has since been conducted into the matter and if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Government of Rajasthan a raid was conducted on 8-7-89 and a large quantity of arms and ammunition including AK-47 rifles (4), Stengusn, (2) AK-47 rifles cartridges (2493), handgrenades (9), detonators (9), fuse wire, mines (20) and other explosive material were recovered from one Kundan Singh @ Kundan Lal Bawri resident of 17-KYD near Khajuwala Sector. PS Pugal, in Bikaner district.

(c) Three persons including the house-owner have been arrested in this connection.

(d) The case has been handed over to the C.B.I. for investigation.

Fire in the basement of Uphaar Cinema, New Delhi

1115. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 7th July, 1989 to the effect that a major fire broke out in the basement of Uphaar Cinema in Green Park area of South Delhi on the 6th July, 1989.

(b) if so, what are the causes of this fire;

(c) what is the estimated loss of property

(d) what is the number of persons injured in the fire and whether any compensation has been paid to the affected persons; and

(e) whether any inquiry has since been conducted into the matter and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) A serious fire incident occurred on 6-7-89 on the ground-floor of Uphaar Cinema building. Delhi. Police enquiries reveal that the fire was due to electrical short-circuit. Estimated loss of property is of Rs. 2 lacs. No one was injured in the incident.

Loans granted to poor farmers

1116. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ratio of loans granted to the farmers is very low in comparison to that granted to the industrialists;

(b) if so, what is the estimated amount of loans granted to the farmers for agricultural purposes during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) what is the total amount of loans granted to the farmers by each bank during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The percentage share of advances to agriculture and Industry (large, medium and SSI) by Scheduled Commercial Banks in total outstanding was 16.9 per cent and 51.9 per cent respectively, as on December. 1988 (latest available).

(b) A statement regarding State-wise advances to Agriculture by Public Sector Banks for the years December 1984, 1985, 1986 and June, 1987